

January 2, 1949.

My dear Miss Arnold:

This is to wish you a very holy year, because it is a holy year and also because I want you to make ~~the decision~~ of embracing the religious life this year and at once. *through*

Our Lord ~~through~~ His representative, the Archbishop, has given full permission to Mary Walsh to start her foundation. She was waiting for this permission. It finally came. The devil wanted to destroy it through that lady you know. Let us with a big heart excuse this lady. In spite of all that she had to say, the Archbishop, through Msgr. Wade, has told Mary Walsh to go ahead and follow the directions ~~that she will~~ receive. Now Mary needs helpers. She counted always on you as a very great help for the foundation. You have felt the vocation so long.

In this matter of vocation, members of our own family, no matter how pious they are, are often our worst enemies. You know that this foundation eventually is going to finish into a Poor Clare's cloistered convent, but it is going to develop into it gradually.

You have the vocation and I don't want the devil now to keep you in the world any longer. You may see me any afternoon between three and six. Be sure that it is some other day than Thursday, and it would be better to telephone beforehand, since I might be away.

Hurry this matter, because it has waited long enough. Give also your help to Alberta. Remember that her vocation depends on your fidelity to the present grace. I will ~~find~~ *find* some other candidates for the foundation. Pray for it, and God will not fail us.

Praying for your fidelity to grace,

Your former spiritual father,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Miss Dolores C. Arnold,  
517 No. Pasquell Ave.,  
San Gabriel, Calif.



## Dominguez Seminary

Claretian Fathers

18127 South Alameda Blvd.

Compton, California / 6/I/49

R.P. Luis Ellacuría c.m.f. ....

Los Angeles

R. y amado P. en Jesus y Maria:

; Gloria sea por todo y siempre al P., al H. y al Esp. Sto. ! Amén.

Sumamente agradecido a su paternal acogida, le envío mi primera cuenta espiritual. Comenzaré por darle una idea lo mas exacta y breve que pueda de mi pasada vida espiritual, y terminare con otra idea semejante del estado actual de la misma.

I

Mi vida en el mundo, no fue vida de niño cándido e inocente. Los apetitos naturales previnieron en mi al uso de la razón. Y sin fuerza para contenerlos, ni suficiente conocimiento para controlarlos, me comencé a dejar llevar de ellos desde mis más tiernos años, y aun a fomentarlos positivamente con tocamientos a solas, con chicos y chicas de mi edad, y hasta con animales.... De los trece a los catorce años pase en Zamora empleado en un comercio. Esto que de momento no sirvió más que para aumentar los apetitos y los pecados, yo lo considero providencial, porque allí pude conocer el mundo muy de cerca. Y conocido, me hastió y lo desprecié. Y más tarde, en las horas difíciles de la carrera, jamás he tenido tentación seria contra la Vocación, por lo que al mundo se refiere.

Todas mis liviandades, claro está, las hacía a espaldas de mis Padres y parientes, pues de haberlo sabido ellos me hubieran salido caras, según a sido siempre de grande su celo por cristiano, por la buena educación de sus hijos.

Aunque más tarde, al hacer mi confesion general, yo confese como pecado todo aquello que entonces conocí que lo era, no creo que lo fuera en la realidad, pues, la mayoría de esas acciones torpes yo las había, sabiendo así que eran vergonzosas, pero sin tener de ellas noción de pecado.

A pesar del número y grado a que llegaron, nunca pudieron mis pecados y pasiones, acallar la voz de Dios N. Sr. que desde muy temprano comenzó a sonar en mi corazón, llamándome a la vida sacerdotal-misionera. Jesús, María y José conservaron mi corazón siempre bueno y guiaron mis pasos al Santuario, a pesar de lo que merecian mis pecados. En Zamora, ingresé en la Acción Católica y en la asociación de los Luises que dirigen nuestros PP. Pero no estaba aún contento. La voz del Cielo no me dejaba sosegar. Cuando veía un sacerdote, y sobre todo un Misionero, lo envidiaba grandemente.

Por fin, el 29 de Diciembre de 1946 ingresé en nuestro Postulantado de Segovia. Unos seis meses permanecí sin poder hacer bien mi confesion general, a causa de la vergüenza. Me confesaba y comulgaba sacrilegamente!... Sufría sin cesar. Mi conciencia no estaba tranquila. Fue por el mes de Junio de 1947, cuando lo confese todo con aquel Sto. P. Ildefonso Martinez (q.e.p.d.). Mi alegría fue extraordinaria. Era ya otro. Me sentí como transportado a otro mundo. Yo considero todo esto gracia especialísima de los SS. Corazones de J.M. y J.

Desde entonces comencé a conocer, aun experimentalmente, cuán dulce es amar y servir a Dios y al Corazón de María, y me entregué de veras a Ellos, cumpliendo lo mejor que he podido el Espejo del Postulante y las SS. Constituciones. Mas, he de confesar que, muchas veces he faltado a mis promesas, según son de innumerables las faltas que he cometido. Pero también aquí ha sido grande la misericordia del Sr., pues nunca me ha negado el arrepentimiento.

Por mi parte, nada extraordinario he hecho en su servicio. Ciertamente que la vida austera de los PP. de Desierto y de otros Santos, me ha atraído grandemente desde los primeros años del Postulantado. Y muchas veces hubiera llevado



a la practica sus austeridades, si hubiera tenido medios y los PP. Superiores me lo hubieran permitido. Sólo, en diversos tiempos y Colegios, he solido practicar penitencias como las siguientes: -Disciplina, una, dos y tres veces por semana. Cilicio todos los días, medio día, excepto el Domingo. Poca ropa y duchas de agua fría, en las estaciones frías. Dejar sueño y comida. Posturas incómodas..... Casi todo lo que por el Sr. he hecho, se ha reducido a propósitos y promesas: - El 15 de Agosto de 1937 hice voto privado de castidad. "sub levi". -El 8 de Diciembre del 1937 el P. Prefecto, Tomás Guzman, me consagró públicamente, en el Oratorio, con otros dos otros postulantes, a la Sma. Virgen. -El 25 del mismo mes y año, hice al Niño Jesús voto privado de Obediencia "sub levi". -El 27 de Nov. de 1939 me consagré a la Sma. V., según fórmula del Bto. Montfort, previo un mes de Ejercicios Esp. marianos, que hice en particular. -El 26 de Nov. de 1941 hice el Voto de Almas. -El 16 de Julio del 1942, mi primera Profesión. -El 26 de Nov. de 1943, mi oblación completa como Víctima de Amor, según fórmula que redacté y que renuevo todos los días de retiro, ejercicios espirituales y fiestas más solemnes. -El 16 de Julio de 1945, mi profesión Perpetua..... Como los he cumplido? -Ciertamente no muy bien. El Señor me perdone una vez más y tenga misericordia de mí...

Creo que los años de más fervor en mi vida espiritual, fueron los dos primeros de Filosofía. Y el Sr. me regalaba mucho. Pero, yo no recuerdo bien ahora, si fue en este segundo año o en el tercero de Filosofía, dije al Sr. varias veces en la oración que, aunque lo apetececia mi natural, bien sabía El que no le servía por los consuelos sensibles tan grandes que me daba. Y que si era su santísima Voluntad, que me los quitara, conforme a lo que enseñan los Maestros de la Espiritualidad ser lo mas perfecto. Y el Sr. me oyó. Llevo ya unos cinco años de extraordinarias sequedades y distracciones en la oración y demás actos de piedad- no siempre con la misma intensidad- agravadas a las veces con la del sueño. Bendito sea por todo y siempre! Amen.

Cosas grandes y raras no existen en mi vida espiritual, sino son mis grandes pecados y faltas, que a la vez son bien ordinarios por ser tan numerosos. Algo notables fueron los consuelos que el Señor me dió por varios años. Las fortísimas tentaciones contra la pureza que, de imaginación y de la carne, me han atormentado siempre, a no ser del año pasado hasta hoy, en que han ido en disminuyendo en número e intensidad. Algunos toques íntimos del divino Espíritu, llamando a mi alma a vida más perfecta. Profundo sentimiento de la presencia real de Jesús en la Eucaristía, y de la inhabitación de la Sma. Trinidad en mi alma y en las criaturas, a largas temporadas. Dos sueños: uno sobre los efectos del pecado en el alma, y otro sobre mi elección a la vida religiosa. Pero que como a sueños, yo no les he dado ninguna importancia.....

Aquí tiene, amado P., trazado en líneas generales, el obscuro cuadro de mi vida espiritual ya pasada. Ahora unas palabras sobre el estado actual de la misma, que por cierto no es muy consolador.

## II

- 1- PASIONES E INCLINACIONES DEFECTUOSAS: Siento gran tendencia al placer, al poco esfuerzo; a la excesiva actividad exterior, con menoscabo de la interior. Pereza al levantarme por la mañana; inclinación a elegir las mejores cosas; a la curiosidad.... PASION DOMINANTE: Creo que es la SOBERBIA, principalmente en estas dos manifestaciones: -Amor propio, con tendencia a la independencia de juicio, a la crítica y a la murmuración. -Vanidad, con deseo de figurar y de ser estimado....
- 2- TENTACIONES HABITUALES: Las que de dichas inclinaciones se derivan. A ellas debo añadir las de imaginación y de la carne contra la castidad, si bien estas, desde hace algun tiempo, van disminuyendo mucho en número e intensidad.
- 3- DIFICULTADES: a) EN LA PRACTICA DE LOS VOTOS: -Pobreza: Las que nacen del deseo desordenado de tener cosas buenas, y de la molestia de tener que pedir permisos para dar, recibir, cambiar..... -Castidad: Las que provienen de las tentaciones indicadas.... -Obediencia: Las dificultades tanto del voto como



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de la virtud, no son muy grandes; pero al propio juicio le cuesta a veces someterse y alegrarse con lo mandado, pensando que es lo mejor.

-b) EN EL CUMPLIMIENTO DE LAS SS. CONSTITUCIONES: Las dificultades que nacen de las pasiones e inclinaciones antedichas...

-c) EN LA DISCIPLINA COLEGIAL: Me cuesta, a las veces, la exactitud en dejar la obra que traigo entre manos, a la voz de la campana...

4- BUENOS DESEOS: Gracias a Dios y al C.I. de N. Madre, no me faltan grandes deseos de trabajar en la propia santificación y en la de las demás almas. Pero, por desgracia, a esto se reduce todo. Y eso que en varias ocasiones he tenido como cierto presentimiento, de que, si no llego a la santidad, me condenaré. No puedo salvarme como simple religioso.

5- SACRAMENTOS: -EUCARISTIA: La recibo diariamente, a no mediar absoluta imposibilidad. Y creo que con fruto; pero no todo aquel que podría y debería sacar, por impedírmelo las distracciones y sequedades en la preparación y acción de gracias.

-CONFESION: Hubo tiempo en que, para mayor pureza de conciencia, la hacía dos y tres veces por semana, y aun diariamente; pero me disuadió el Confesor ordinario en Beire, y desde entonces no la hago más que semanal, y en las vísperas de algunas grandes fiestas. El fruto obtenido creo que siempre ha sido notable.

6- ORACION VOCAL: Me va en ella regular. Con distracciones y sequedades...

7- MEDITACION: Desde el Noviciado propuse seguir el Método de S.A. de Ligorio; pero en la práctica apenas lo he usado, por que me es imposible. Antes no me era muy necesario, por que el alma necesitaba muy pocos requisitos para recogerse, amar y resolverse, aunque la imaginación le daba mucha guerra. Y desde que comenzaron en gran escala las distracciones y sequedades, de nada me valen las industrias. Ni la preparación puedo hacer bien. Y durante la meditación, la mayoría de los días apenas si puedo conciliar la atención unos minutos. Veces hay que el tiempo de la meditación es un tormento a causa de la tiniebla y de la sequedad. El alma barrunta algo divino; pero, ni una luz, ni un afecto, y enseguida la distracción... Es un tormento. Hasta carece el alma de ganas y de fuerzas para ofrecérselo al Señor. Quizá me ayudara algo la lectura meditativa; pero siempre me han dicho que conviene seguir la Comunidad y no llamar la atención. Hagase la Voluntad de Dios!...

18- Sta. MISA: Unas veces sigo el Misal, otras medito, y otras el diablo se lleva el fruto con las distracciones...

9- LECTURAS ESPIRITUALES: No tengo ninguna, fuera de los ratos que dedico al estudio de la Mística. Los estudios no me dejan tiempo para más.

10- EXAMENES DE CONCIENCIA; -COMUNES: Aun en estos no me dejan en paz las distracciones. Algunos se me pasan sin caer en la cuenta. -PARTICULAR: Hace unos meses que, con los viajes y distracciones consiguientes, no lo he llevado con fidelidad, ni lo he apuntado. Lo llevo de la presencia de Dios.

// -DEVOCIONES HABITUALES: Las principales son: - Tres partes del Sto. Rosario. - Viacrucis. - 7 Pater. y las Letanias a S. José. - La "Secuentia" al Esp. Sto., tres Ave-Marias al poder, sabiduría y misericordia del C. de M., y la oración "Virginum Custos et Pater..." a S. José, para obtener la perfección, y otras oraciones y jaculatorias accidentales...

12- MORTIFICACIONES HABITUALES: Por motivo de enfermedad y por tibieza, hace ya un año que no practico ninguna especial. Sólo a la interior me dedico, y no con mucha intensidad. El Sr. se ha encargado de lo demás. Y así nunca me faltado que sufrir en el interior o en exterior. Su R. verá si conviene que reanude la práctica de alguna. Yo me atrevo a suplicarle el permiso, para usar de nuevo el cilicio de pierna, todos los días, hasta la una de la tarde.

13- VIRTUDES POR CUYA ADQUISICION MAS TRABAJO: Son: - Presencia de Dios, humildad y conformidad con la Voluntad divina.



- 14- RELACIONES CON LOS DEMAS HERMANOS: Con todos me llevo bien. Pero hace unos días, he comenzado a sentir repugnancia bastante fuerte hacia uno, por su no recto comportamiento con los que acabamos de llegar de España. Me esforzaré cuanto pueda en vencerla.
- 15- EN LOS ESTUDIOS: Creo que no voy mal. Aunque mis dotes intelectuales no son muy grandes, tengo mucho amor al estudio. En ocasiones quizá excesivo. Ahora estoy un poco apurado, pues, por una parte tengo que aprender el Inglés cuanto antes pueda, y por otra, tengo atrasadas todas las asignaturas de curso. Por que nada pude estudiar en serio, hasta llegar a este Colegio. Todo lo estudio con interés, pero la ciencia que más me atrae es la Mística. Espero que, andando el tiempo, el Sr. me concederá hacer algo en este punto. El me ha dado a conocer con bastante claridad como se menoscaba la Gloria de Dios y se pierden las almas por falta de vida divina. Y por no conocer o no poder seguir el camino que a ella conduce.... Aunque creo, que no ha de ser para mí este el principal ministerio, sino el de perdonar pecados... He cultivado también la Oratoria y la Literatura en Castellano, y pienso cultivarlas también en Inglés, si a V.R. le parece bien. Dificultades en los estudios, no tengo otras que las que nacen de mi escasa memoria.
- 16- MI ESTADO DE SALUD CORPORAL: ahora es bastante bueno, gracias a Dios y al C. de Maria. Pero no me han faltado, ni me faltan, de vez en cuando, algunos pequeños achuchones, efectos del cambio de clima, de regimen... El día que ando en auto, es para mí bastante amargo, por causa del mareo.

Aquí el punto final. No se si con estas notas, habré conseguido lo que intentaba: Dar a V.R. una idea cabal de la vida espiritual de mi alma, cual la necesita tener para dirigirla por los intrincados senderos de la Santidad. Si así no fue, perdóneme. En su mano tiene V.R. el poder de lograrla. Desde este momento soy todo suyo, sin condiciones ni reticencias. Pregúnteme cuanto desee sobre mi vida pasada o actual, si lo cree conveniente. Yo procuraré responderle lo antes que pueda y lo mejor que sepa.

En orden a facilitar las primeras cuentas de conciencia con los Directores que el Sr. me deparara, y como ejercicio literario, comencé a escribir en Beire, con aprobación del entonces P. Prefecto, hoy M.R.P.A. Lobo, una especie de autobiografía bastante detallada. Mas, por unas cosas y por otras, y sobre todo por falta de tiempo, a penas si tengo escritas las primeras paginas en borrador. Y habiendo llegado a estas alturas, y en estas circunstancias, no pienso ya seguir adelante, pues, ello carece de objeto, a no ser que otra cosa pareciera a V.R., por creer insuficientes estas notas.

V.R. decidirá de todo, según el Sr. y el C. de la Madre le inspiraren. Yo quedo aguardando sus consejos y orientaciones, y sobre todo, los poderosos auxilios de sus preces sacerdotales y su santa bendición, mientras le reitero mi saludo y acción de gracias más cordiales y me ofrezco enteramente affmo. y obediente hijo in C.O.M., q.b.s.m.

José Gallego C.M.F.

P.J. - Puede V.R. contestarme en el idioma que le sea más fácil.

¿Cada cuánto tiempo desea que le envíe mis cuentas de conciencia?

Siempre que pueda, pienso escribirlas a máquina, para facilitar a V.R. su lectura y no hacerle perder tiempo.



January 7, 1949.

Dear Walter and Emily:

I will be very happy to celebrate a High Mass for the deceased members of the Schneider-Fitzsimmons family on the 16th of January.

Your pleasant visit to the Novitiate is still fresh in my mind. I saw your godchild, Eddie, at Dominguez Seminary when we went there for the Mission Exhibit. Eddie was feeling very happy and welcomed us in his own gracious way with a big and frank smile.

Be sure I will remember you in my prayers. I hope you, too, will continue praying for us, because we need many prayers to be always true to our vocation.

Wishing you a happy and holy New Year,

Gratefully in the Immaculate  
Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Fitzsimmons,  
3513 Montrose Ave.,  
Chicago, Ill.



January 7, 1949.

Dear Miss Flynn:

[REDACTED] thanks for your kind donation. Be sure I will remember you in my prayers.

Wishing you a happy and holy New Year, and asking a remembrance in your prayers,

Gratefully in the Immaculate  
Heart of Mary,

Father Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.

Miss Mary Flynn,  
3 Stafford Apts.,  
Pocatello, Idaho.



J. M. . . . M. T.  
Carmel of St. Joseph  
3361 East Ocean Blvd.  
Long Beach 3, Calif.

Telephone  
90-7749

Pax Christi!

January 2, 1949.

Rev. Father Aloysius, C.M.F.

Dear Father Aloysius:

For months I have been anxious to get a letter off to your Reverence but it seems that so much business has to be taken care of in the mornings and the afternoons are filled with appointments.

When I went on retreat last June one of the two intentions for which I offered it was for the grace to know the Will of God regarding the question of a foundation. I had already spoken with the Archbishop and had asked the permission to leave the Archdiocese. On July 14th His Excellency came to give the Habit to the daughter of Mr. Roberts. After the ceremony we were speaking together for a few moments and it was then that the Archbishop, of his own accord gave me the permission, at the same time saying that he would retain the right or to quote him exactly—"reserve the power to retain me in the Archdiocese." This, of course, sent me to the Chapel to pray, first in thanksgiving, then in petition for I did not want to begin a work elsewhere only to hear that the Archbishop would not allow me to leave. Two weeks had hardly passed when a letter came from His Excellency, inviting us to found a house in Long Beach. Long Beach was not in my mind at all, for it was the last place I would have thought of, not knowing the change that had taken place in the last fifteen or twenty years. All of this time I had kept the matter a secret from my community, even from the two Nuns who had spoken to me for over a year of the subject of a new Carmel.

As soon as the letter came I called the Council and then the Chapter, together. Later on, after a few days to pray over it, we took the vote of the Chapter. That was the first step. It was approved and then I began negotiations immediately and started to work, finding a place, getting a contractor, having the alterations made. It was not long after my announcement, perhaps a few days, when everything was going along quite peacefully, that a bombshell exploded in community life. When the announcement, or rather the acceptance of the Chapter was announced to the Nuns I asked humbly for the second hand and used articles of the community that were stored away and not necessary. A few days later I went to the sacristy accompanied by a Sister who would be of our new group. The two Sisters I had placed in the sacristy treated me coldly and when I saw their attitude I would not take what should have been given, yet I said nothing, knowing that the poor should be ready to receive such treatment, although it hurt me. These two Sisters were not well enough to do the sacristy work alone so I gave them extra help and had made everything easy for them. Besides, I had given them this particular work which in Carmel is a favor.

The following Tuesday we held a Council meeting. One of the two Sisters was a member of the Council. I opened the meeting without a hint of what was to take place when suddenly this Nun began to reproach me severely, heaping a tirade of abuse upon me.



It was so uncalled for and so unjust that I could say nothing. It shocked me so much. Among other false accusations she said that I was stripping the Community, that the friends of the Carmel in Alhambra would see the things down in Long Beach, etc., etc. And much more. When she had come to a pause I answered her quietly, saying that as I had the authority (she had referred to the point of my being the Superior and so having authority) I would use it in keeping peace in Community and as far as whatever had been taken from the sacristy and what the other Sisters had offered from the different offices would all be returned. And so the meeting ended in silence. But for two days I wept. It seemed, Father, that a knife had been thrust into my heart. Had I suffered from outsiders, from strangers it would not have upset me, but to receive all this from a Nun who had been my own Prioress and to whom I had given my vote over a long period of years, from one whom I had given excellent care in spite of knowing that she disliked me, all this formed a huge and heavy cross which even affected my nervous system. It was a week and a half before the effect of the shock wore away and for months the after-effects were still with me. All was returned to the sacristy and different offices and ~~the~~ following day I called a special Chapter, explaining in a general way why the articles were returned. I then spoke of the beauty of poverty, of how little we were need of, that as far as books were concerned, the Holy Scripture was sufficient. The attitude of the Sisters going with me was admirable, they were content and even joyful to come to Long Beach divested of all things, poor as the poorest.

One week to the day after the Council meeting the particular Sister burned her hand severely. She lost her head, as she explained and could not think straight enough to loosen the electric ironer. It was a new machine, quite easy to use and her work was ironing the purificators, easy enough for a child of ten. My Father, I never referred to what had taken place, or the trouble and anguish she had caused me but ordered the Doctor at once and instructed the Infirmarian to give her every care. One week later she suffered a heart attack and was taken to St. Vincent's. I need add nothing more for you have heard of the great physical suffering that was hers. It seemed as though when one medical aid was given, she suffered something else and so the best of medical science was powerless to cure her. While she was in the hospital a report began to be circulated that I was stripping the Community of its best religious, going so far as to cause the Monastery to collapse. I heard it first from the Vicar General, then it got to the Archbishop and he came out to investigate.

In the meantime the Sister died and kneeling at her coffin just before the body was taken to the chapel I forgave her everything from my heart. It was after her death that the investigation was made. By that time I was so convinced that all was the work of the evil one that it affected me hardly at all. However, the Vicar General, who had been like a Father to me through the years, could not even bear to hear me mention Long Beach. I am of the opinion that this false report also issued from the same source as the first accusation, that it was circulated by a priest who visited the hospital and that it was he who turned the Vicar General against me, for the time being. Indeed, it was almost like the founding of the first Carmel of St. Joseph in Avila.



Toward the middle of the work in Long Beach false reports again began to be circulated but this time from the people down here, the neighbors especially. And when I heard what was said I actually laughed, for it was so plain then just where all the trouble came from. You know well, Father, that the devil does not care how he achieves his end, so now he changed his lies and it was said that I was bringing to Long Beach a group of demented and neurotic Sisters! That was just one of the lies!! The old boy could not bear the thought of my coming down here. Apparently I gave him less trouble in Alhambra than I will here! Because it was not only from one source but even from the friends of the Community who seemed to think that the Carmel in Alhambra would become a complete failure if I were not there. As if God has need of anyone of us to such an extent that a work would fail without us! It--all these reports--made no impression on me whatsoever because one of my favorite prayers, or ejaculations is:

My God, Thou hast no need of me, but I have need of Thee!  
And it gives me great consolation to repeat this over and over again.

And so, at long last, Our lady triumphed and on the eve of her feast in December, on the seventh, we came down here. And to make me even happy was the fact that we had nothing to eat, the Sisters in Alhambra not having offered me anything and I thought God would bless us more for not asking. My trust was bountifully repaid for we have had an abundance ever since and the Sisters, I am sure, will never be in want. This will be the reward of their happiness in the thought of suffering the poverty of Christ.

Shortly before we came, not more than three or five days, the furnace which had been started by the workmen, almost exploded. In consequence we had to order a new one but in the meantime we prepared for the feast of Christmas in a cold house. It was not until the end of the old year that the new furnace came. I was the fifth to develop a cold which is still with me.

All this, my Father, I have wanted so much to tell you for we needed your prayers. Pray for us now, pray for subjects and for the welfare of our little Community. It is my desire to have you come and see the house, a real Monastery in miniature, before we have enclosure, which will be in about three weeks. Tell me, please, if it is at all possible for you to come. I want your blessing here. I also wish you to suggest the name of one or two of the Fathers at the Seminary in Compton who would be willing and spiritual to give conferences to the Sisters. After the enclosure is sealed I wish to have a conference every two weeks. Our ordinary Confessor is a parish priest of Compton and I am sure he is too busy, besides, he is not a religious. Your boys from the seminary have been over and they show themselves to be a fine group. I told them that I would tell you we had their names down for application as we had them sign our guest book! Mr. Lemrise thinks so much of you. Your blessing, now. I am sorry I cannot telephone to you but the cost of a long distance call is so much and we are in debt as you know. Please do write. I need a few words from you, Father. And come soon.

Humbly in Christ,

*Maria Mary Tugadeh, D.C.*

Prioress



Sunday Morning, Jan. 9. 1949  
Feast of the Holy Family.

Rev. and dear Father Aloysius ,

May I address you this morning please? And also bring<sup>ing</sup>  
a little request ? This coming week ,monday,tuesday and wednesday  
of this week my son Aloys is making a retreat at Mount Carmel  
High School,so I am naturally interested for him to gain as much  
as possible spiritually during those days and if I may ask Our  
Lord once more for the a return to the priestly vocation I would  
like to ask you,if you could possibly say Holy Mass for him,for  
this intention.I leave all the intentions of this mass up to you.

I have found within the last 2-3 weeks a renewed  
and lively devotion to the Little Flower;her"way" appeals to me  
very much because it seems to be what you are trying to teach us.  
Am I right ? I know you have told us not to ask God to let us  
perform great deeds,but instead just to do his will in every  
little act of our daily lives.But I do have a very great desire  
to offer my will entirely to that of my dear Lord and to accept  
anything at all that he may ask of me.I have a desire for suffer-  
ing.Is that too great a desire to have for me? My love for Our  
dear Lord seems to be growing within me more every day.He has  
been so very kind to me,to let me feel his holy presence several  
times during the day.I get a real delight out of kneeling down  
any time during the day to greet him and of course I love to  
attend as many holy Masses as possible in a day.I haven't missed  
Mass or Holy Communion in the last few weeks.Thank God for that.  
In the evening I can't hardly wait until I have my room to myself,  
so I can spend some time with Our dear Lord and his Immaculate



Mother. I get such a great comfort out of being so close to both of them.

At the same time I realize that I would love them just as dearly if for some reason this sweetness was taken away from me. I just want you to know, that I don't expect Our dear Lord to spoil me. He must have a very good reason for being so very kind to me at this time. I have a feeling that he is giving me a little breathing spell before he will send me more suffering.

I try to mortify myself in as many ways as I can, to show my dear Lord how grateful I am.

I am telling you this, so you can easier understand my spiritual life and what you must tell me in the future. -- is that alright ?

Now I would like to thank you dear Father, or rather I thank my dear Lord for having send me to you and I will pray daily for your intentions, after Holy Communion, that you may be able to fulfill the holy will of God perfectly.

With kindest regards and best wishes

I am your respectful  
and obedient daughter  
Maria Roth

! Please one Mass for The Intention I told you

and — one Mass for the soul of my brother ~~xxx~~ Aloys who died 3 years ago in a Russian Prison Hospital.

Thank you so much Father.

For the privilege of attending Midnight Mass as your Novitiate I thank you heartily. It seemed like a little bit of Heaven. Maria R.



Gloria to the Blood of Jesus!  
Monastery of the Precious Blood  
685 Union St.  
Manchester N.H.

Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> 1949.

Rev. Fr. Ploysius, O. S. A. C. M. F.

Rev. Kind Father;

The copies of the life of your saintly Founder reached us some short time after our arrival to our Manchester Monastery. — We could not bring them because of the limited weight of baggage on plane. — My sister, Mrs. McKean mailed them to me. — We are enjoying the reading of so humble, holy and zealous a life.

We have the beautiful Calendar of 'St. Jude's', by it we learnt the happy event of the Centennial this year, of the foundation of your beautiful Order. — Congratulations and union of prayers in thanksgiving. —

My two Companions and I are gradually improving in health. — I now can walk short distances with crutches. —

We are now eleven of the Missionaries returned. Matthew becoming worse in poor China, our Mother General decided to have the whole



community return to U. S. & Canada.  
In more peaceful times we will re-establish again  
over there. — Two American Sisters are still in  
China with our eight Chinese Sisters. Arrange-  
ments are nearly complete for passports, permits,  
etc., for these dear ones over there, to come  
across the Ocean. — Please say a prayer  
with your fervent Seminarians, that soon this  
important affair may be happily terminated.

I hope you & some of your Seminarians can  
read French. I am sending a short life of  
a Jesuit Missionary who was made prisoner &  
finally killed with two companions by the  
Japanese, when at war with China & U. S. A.  
You will see what most of the Missionaries had  
to put up with during those difficult times &  
which is not very long ago. We were imprisoned  
for a week at that time. But as throughout all  
the troubles of our Missionary life, God remark-  
ably protected us. It may be some time before you re-  
ceive this book for I am sending it to my nephew, Mr.  
McKean in Nevada to read. He will send it to his Mother  
and she pass it to you. — I have the souvenirs written  
from 1937 difficulties, to our reaching here Nov. 1949. When  
arranged in due form I will send a copy to Mrs. McKean &  
ask her to pass it to you that you thank him with not have  
courage & confidence in similar circumstances for the future mis-  
sionaries. In the Blood of Jesus & love of our Im. Mother, respectfully & gratefully  
A. H. Agnes, of the P. B. Rel. and P. B.





*Our Lady Academy*  
*Manteno, Illinois*

January 13, 1949

My dear Spiritual Father:

This is the fourth letter I begin to you, and even if it is only two lines I intend to send this time.

Many, many things have happened which I have neither the time nor the desire to relate. I am still here at O.L.A. by the grace of God. I have been tempted often to flee from all the difficulties both within and without which I have had to encounter, but somehow the grace of God always triumphs. I would feel it was time well spent had I profited as I ought, but I fear I have done nothing but live through it, which was something.

Rev. Mother applied for an Indult from Rome for a one-year extension of my term - which explains my being here at O.L.A. again this year. To date, the Indult has not been received. The year will be up and I'll still be here - oh well, the responsibility is theirs. We had the visit of Rt. Reverend Martin D. McNamara in September, and there were no complaints to my GREAT SURPRISE! I insisted that he interview S. Monica as she had made very serious accusations against me, which if proved would demand my removal from office, and I wanted her to have the opportunity to make her accusations to the proper authority. Father informed me she had no complaints, and so I let the matter drop. He was well pleased with his visit, and told me to continue the good work. Her insubordination and want of religious spirit came to a crisis when she left the premises ten days before Christmas. She returned, but after a couple weeks in Beaverville, was transferred to Hot Springs, Arkansas. It was imperative for the welfare of this Community and her own that she leave here. She needs your holy prayers that she may return to God. I thought by suffering with patience the agonies of soul she put me through during the six years I have been her superior that she would better her ways. Believe me it is a miracle of grace that I have lived through it, and I ask myself to what avail.

I suppose you have heard we shall have a new Bishop in a new diocese of Joliet, and none other than our former Ecclesiastical Superior. The Sisters all like him very much, and so do I. He is very fatherly and kind and understanding, at least we found him so.

As for my own spiritual life there is little to say except this - Several months ago I decided once for all to cease questioning and discussing my interior state, and to accept what others and you have told me in spite of my unbelief.

2nd - To strive to make God's good pleasure, my delight, regardless of what His good will might be or entail. To immolate self in this good pleasure, and leave my cares and weaknesses to Him. I read recently "His mercy is far greater than all sin". The greatest sin is to yield to discouragement and disregard His mercy.

I must close now, as Virginia, our Office girl is about to go to the



mail and I cannot trust myself to put this aside for a day, or you may never get it.

Keep up your holy prayers for my needy soul, as I have no surety but in Him, and that only on your advice, and those of others I have consulted. I cannot write much on this, as my spirits grow heavy when I even let myself think. Forgive my silence, but I cannot bring myself to write. How I wish you were near sometime, but God has asked that sacrifice. There is no-one but Him, and He is so FAR!

Union of prayer and sacrifice. Please let us hear from you, I miss your letters.

Your spiritual daughter,

*Sister Mary*



J. M. J.

Our Lady Acad.  
Wentworth, Ill.  
Jan. 23. 49.

Reverend Father Chrysostom,  
California.

Dear Rev. Father:

One of my brothers will celebrate his Golden Jubilee on Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. Would you kindly offer the Holy Sacrifice of Mass on that day for their special intentions. They live in Spokane Wash. so the great distance will not permit me to be present on that happy anniversary.

I profit of this occasion to make this my annual letter for I am in great need of your good prayers and advice.

Last week was one of my very bad weeks. It seemed as though I lost all control over my bad temper. Had you been here I would have shown you all the weaknesses of my poor soul. I still have charge of the Bleeding. One day that they did not respond to a new Gregorian Mass, I was very cutting in my remarks to them which did not help -



this matter. After I have acted in this way I wonder how much I have ill-edified them and how can I repair the wrong.

(2) A Sister came to ask me something while I was busy in the sacristy. In the first place there is something in the making of that Sister that I cannot bear. Well I got so worked up about what she asked me that I was unkind and rude with her I went so far as to push her.

Later when I realized what I had done before she took leave of me, I knelt down and asked her to please forgive me for my conduct. All through the day I asked our Dear Lord for forgiveness and made reparations for those offenses. Did I sin grievously in this matter? Please Father I beg your prayers that this may never happen again. After having been in the Religious life for 48 years I conclude that I am still very far from meekness.

Please advise me and if you see fit give me a penance. I still consider myself your penitent. If time will permit you I shall expect an answer for the peace of my soul.



Eleda told me that she had a very  
lovely visit with you while in Cal. I  
am sure that it did her a world of good.

I feel sorry for the poor girl who is all  
alone in the big city of Chicago. I really  
think she ought to make her home in  
Kansas with her sisters.

Father we missed your Christmas Card  
this year. There was a lot of mail that got  
lost at that time, we were wondering if  
some of our mail was lost also.

Father I am ashamed for having taken  
so much of your precious time but it  
relied me to open my soul to one who  
always understood me.

Begging you to kindly remember <sup>me</sup> ~~you~~ in  
your prayers. I never <sup>get</sup> ~~forget~~ you in my  
prayers.

Your sincere friend,  
Sister Margaret Mary. S.S.C.M.



We have been enjoying the visit of our  
Very Reverend Mother General and her 3  
councillors including Mother St. Emily, for  
3 months. To our great regret they are to  
leave for Canada on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Our Lord was very good to us by  
electing as our Mother General, Mother  
St. Eugene who is a very capable and  
holy Religious. The whole American  
Province esteems her very highly as well  
as the members of her council.

I want to thank you kind Father for  
your interest in our Congregation. The  
postulant from Cal. will receive the Holy  
Habit next Tues. Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>. I met her a  
few times, she seems to be very lovely and  
feels much at home with our Sisters.

We are expecting 6 postulants in Feb.  
Our very Rev. Mother told us that we  
would obtain subjects through the Holy  
Heart of Mary. Once every month we all  
make a novena for that intention in  
honor of the Holy Heart of Mary.





*Claretian Missionaries*

*Provincial House*

*1119 Westchester Pl.*

*Los Angeles 6, California*

Very Rev. Macrinus Nino, C.M.F.

1119 Westchester Place

Los Angeles 6, California

January 29, 1949

Very Reverend Father Provincial:

Our Local Chapter on December 17, 1948, decided to ask Your Reverence for permission to paint the Provincial House.

Reverend Father Superior stated, in case Your Reverence approves of it, to begin the work early this year.

Your humble subjects in Corde Matris,

*B. Inson, C.M.D.*

Superior

*Klausius Ellacuria, C.M.F.*  
1st Consulter and Minister

*S. Rijuro Conf*  
2nd Consulter

*Approved*  
*M. Nino, C.M.F.*  
*Prov. Sup.*



Sunday morning 1:30 A.M.  
Jan. 30. 1949

Most Reverend and dear Father,

May I please tell you what your daughter experienced? After your very inspiring talk last Wednesday I wondered just in what way I would be called upon to suffer for our dear Lord. All of a sudden I felt that it probably would have to come through my own dear family and especially the ones I loved most, and I very faintly hoped that they wouldn't have to suffer by it, and if they had to endure anything, that I would be able to show them how to bear up under their cross. Well, most Rev. Father I didn't have long to wait. I was sent some physical suffering, for which I was very happy, but tonight I got a sample of a mental suffering, that for a few minutes was very severe. Please forgive me if I tell you just what happened, but by this example you will be able to read my soul better;



× three boys need our prayers badly. —

Last night my son Alays went to a dance at Mount Carmel High School. During the evening 3 boys<sup>×</sup> that were intoxicated & had come from a public school, started an argument with him and threatened to beat him, which but for the grace of God they would have done, because they followed him home in their car. I listened very calmly to his story and admonished him to draw a lesson for the future from this experience, which I am sure he will. When he finally retired, promising me he would go to holy Communion <sup>in the morning</sup>, this whole thing just twisted my soul for moments I wanted to cry out to our dear Lord: "Must I even sacrifice perhaps the good name and reputation of my dear son and all of a sudden I realized that of course I would have to, if it was his holy will and I told him through my tears that I would be very glad to make that sacrifice if he asked it of me. — As soon as I had done that, I felt



a real peace came over me. How very sweet and understanding our dear Saviour is. - It seemed like a wonderful lesson. Now I am ready for more. Every little discomfort, or sorrow etc. has a real meaning to me now. I repeat my morning offering often during the day, so that everything will be made meritorious through the dear Immaculate Heart of Mary. I pray often for your intentions and also offer many little sacrifices for you, so that you may feel your burden a little lighter. As often as I am awakened in the night, I unite myself with the holy sacrifice of the mass wherever it may be said, for your intentions, for that of our holy Father who I am sure is suffering much at this time.

A few nights ago I awoke about 3 A.M. and felt a strong urge to say the holy Rosary for the conversion of sinners; which I did. I felt my dear Lord



close to me, but he was suffering so, I had to cry; he looked so pitiful. -

Maybe you were wondering whether I made the stations? I used to feel a little self-conscious about doing them in front of people, but dear Alta helped me over this so that now hardly a day goes by without my making them. It is never the same. Always new things come to me. - while I make them.

This letter was it supposed to be a burden to you Father, but I believe I am to tell you of one thing that is troubling me from time to time and that is, my husband practices birth control; he is afraid to trust the Ryther method and O Father that has been a cross to me for many years. My confessors have helped me sometimes by telling me to do the best under the circumstances. But lately I suffer quite a bit on these occasions because I feel I'm displeasing our dear Lord. Please pray for us in this regard maybe with the grace of God we can change him. Thanking <sup>you</sup> most heartily for being so



III

patient and kind to me

I remain in the Hearts of Jesus  
and Mary your very obedient daughter  
Maria Roth

P.S. I received a letter from my parents  
yesterday in which they told me, how  
grateful they are for your prayers  
and my dear mother told me that  
she will remember you in her  
very humble prayers. — By the  
way I'm always writing them  
about spiritual things because I know  
it makes my good mother happy  
and because I know she under-  
stands. So she told me in one  
of her recent letters; it gives her  
such a great satisfaction that I am  
striving to please our dear Lord  
and that now she feels her life  
has not been lived in vain.

O Father, I did not mean to  
write you such a long letter; at least  
you can throw it away after you read  
it. Thank you again. Obediently Maria R.